

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-46 are pending herein. Claim 13 has been amended hereby to correct a minor matter of form only. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been added.


1. Applicants appreciate the PTO indicating that claims 13-29 and 34-46 are allowed. In addition to these allowed claims, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims pending herein are in condition for allowance for the reasons explained below, and respectfully request that the PTO issue a Notice of Allowance for this application in due course.
2. The objection to claims 3 and 7 is noted, but deemed moot because independent claim 1, from which claims 3 and 7 directly or indirectly depend, is in condition for allowance in view of the Terminal Disclaimer filed herewith. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the above objection be reconsidered and withdrawn.
3. The rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-12 and 30-33 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over claims 1-19 of U.S. Patent No. 6,674,342 is noted, but deemed moot in view of the Terminal Disclaimer filed herewith. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the above rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn.

If the Examiner believes that contact with Applicants' attorney would be advantageous toward the disposition of this case, the Examiner is herein requested to call Applicants' attorney at the phone number noted below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date



Stephen P. Burr
Reg. No. 32,970
Nicole J. Buckner
Reg. No. 51,508

SPB/NB/tlp

BURR & BROWN
P.O. Box 7068
Syracuse, NY 13261-7068

Customer No.: 025191
Telephone: (315) 233-8300
Facsimile: (315) 233-8320